

SCOOBY-DOO AND GUESS WHO?
"ALL'S FAIR IN LOVE AND SCARE"
Jinkies! It's Thomas Middleditch!

Written by

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COLD OPEN

EXT. WOODED AREA - NIGHT

The Mystery Machine travels through the middle of nowhere.

INT. MYSTERY MACHINE - SAME

Fred watches the odometer intently.

FRED
Almost... almost...

The odometer clicks over from 499,999 to 500,000.

FRED
We did it, gang! Five hundred
thousand miles!

He looks up to see nobody paying attention.

DAPHNE
What happened, Fred?

FRED
The Mystery Machine hit half a
million miles of mystery solving!

SCOOBY
Is that a lot?

VELMA
Wait. Where did you say we were
going?

FRED
I -- uh --

DAPHNE
Fred Jones, are we just driving for
the miles?

FRED
It's a major accomplishment!

VELMA
I am surprised a van of this make
and model has lasted as long as it
has.

SHAGGY

What are you talking about, Velma?
The Mystery Machine can survive
anything.

FRED

That's right, Shaggy! She's the
best there is!

He pats the dashboard and the van sputters.

EXT. WOODED AREA - CONTINUOUS

The Mystery Machine slows to a stop.

INT. MYSTERY MACHINE - SAME

Velma lowers her glasses at Fred.

VELMA

You were saying?

SCOOBY

Where are we?

VELMA

Wherever it is, there's no cell
service.

DAPHNE

Look guys, there's a light in that
old, spooky mansion!

EXT. MANSION - SAME

Lightning flashes behind the terrifying estate.

INT. MYSTERY MACHINE - CONTINUOUS

Shaggy and Scooby huddle together.

SHAGGY

Like, that's our cue to light out
of here!

SCOOBY

And how!

FRED
Hold it a minute, you two. Let's
see if we can borrow a phone.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - MANSION - MOMENTS LATER

The gang stands before the door.

VELMA
What knockers!

REVEAL: An ornate set of antique knockers on the door.

VELMA
They must be at least a hundred
years old.

Fred uses one and the door opens with a long creek.

SCOOBY
[GULPS] Not good.

FRED
Come on, gang.

INT. FOYER - CONTINUOUS

They walk in cautiously. The entire place is dark.

FRED		DAPHNE
Anybody home?	Hello?	

THOMAS (O.S.)
Cut!

A sudden burst of light illuminates the area, revealing an
entire film CREW and THOMAS MIDDLEDITCH.

GANG
Actor, comedian and screenwriter,
Thomas Middleditch?

A horse whinnies offscreen.

THOMAS
Hey! We cut the horse! No horse!

END COLD OPEN

ACT ONE

INT. FOYER - NIGHT

Thomas waves his crew away.

THOMAS
Everybody take five!

He approaches the gang.

THOMAS
This is a closed set.

DAPHNE
A set? Are you filming a movie?

THOMAS
Better! [BEAT] For as long as I can remember, people have hated me. They looked at my face and my body and they ran away in horror. In my loneliness I decided that if I could not inspire love myself, which was my deepest hope, I would instead create it... with a new reality dating series! *The Single Girl!*

SHAGGY
Why would you film a dating show in a creepy, old mansion?

A group of bats fly past.

THOMAS
I'm on a tight budget.

FRED
We didn't mean to interrupt. We just need to borrow a phone. Our van's stranded outside.

CHAD, a handsome, square-jawed contestant with a golden, flowing mane, marches by with luggage.

THOMAS
Chad! Wait! Where are you going?

CHAD
I'm out of here. I'm not risking my life fighting a ghost in order to find a girlfriend.

SCOOBY
[GULPS] Ghost?

THOMAS
Fine! There's a million other guys
lined up for this show, Chad!

Chad shuts the door behind him. Thomas turns to the gang.

THOMAS
There aren't. I'm in big trouble.

FRED
Did he say something about a ghost?

THOMAS
[SIGHS] Loveless Lorna. She's
haunting the mansion. There's some
legend that the love of her life
left her and she's still waiting
for his return. It'd make great
television if she wasn't scaring
away my contestants.

SHAGGY
What does she look like?

THOMAS
Ghostly white dress, haunting face,
sort of mid-century chic... why?

SHAGGY
I think she's here.

The group turns. LOVELESS LORNA, a mid-century debutante with
a resting weeping face, is at the top of the staircase. A
bolt of lightning illuminates her as she screams.

THOMAS
Yep. That's her.

She screams again, chasing Thomas and the gang around a
corner.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They engage in a classic *Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!* "Hallway
Chase" - entering and exiting various doors, in different
combinations of Thomas, the gang and Lorna. Eventually, only
Lorna steps out of a door into the hall. She screams.

INT. FOYER - CONTINUOUS

Thomas and the gang run in, out of breath.

THOMAS
Just like that. That's how she's
ruining things.

DAPHNE
Don't worry, Mr. Middleditch --

A horse whinnies offscreen.

THOMAS
Why is that horse still here?
[BEAT] Sorry, you were saying?

DAPHNE
We'll get to the bottom of this.

THOMAS
You think there's something to get
to the bottom of?

VELMA
In our experience, it's likely your
ghost is someone here, in disguise.

FRED
How many contestants did you say
there are?

EXT. POOL - MOMENTS LATER

Despite the mansion's old, haunting appearance, a modern, updated pool area is situated outside. Thirteen handsome CONTESTANTS mingle about, some in the pool, others not. All seem oblivious to potential danger.

THOMAS
Behold. My creation!

VELMA
This may take a while.

INT. CONFESSIONAL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Thomas and the gang are crammed across from CONTESTANT #1 - buff, bearded, shirtless - seated in front of a green screen.

FRED
Why are you here?

CONTESTANT #1
To find the love of my life, of
course.

VELMA
Any other reason?

CONTESTANT #1
Should there be? I can have more.

CUT TO:

CONTESTANT #2 - buff, glasses, chiseled jaw

THOMAS
Tell us what you know!

CONTESTANT #2
Nuh-zing.

Taking one look at Velma, he stares deep into her eyes.

CONTESTANT #2
Oh. Hallo. Would you like to have a
roll in ze hay? It's fun.

VELMA
I -- uh -- I --

He rolls in some hay on the ground.

CONTESTANT #2
Roll, roll, roll in ze hay.

Velma giggles. The others are weirded out.

CUT TO:

CONTESTANT #3 - buff, bald, tattoos

DAPHNE
Do you know anything about the
ghost?

CONTESTANT #3
No, ma'am.

SHAGGY
What about the catering?

CONTESTANT #3
You want to know about the food?

THOMAS
Shaggy, where's this going?

SHAGGY
Hopefully to a buffet table. I'm
starving!

SCOOBY
Me too!

The grizzled, old cameraman, with a hunched back, MARTIN,
barges into the room.

THOMAS
Marty!

MARTIN
Martin.

THOMAS
What's up?

MARTIN
I'm sick of waiting for these
interviews to end. They're a waste
of time. This whole show is a mess.

THOMAS
Marty --

MARTIN
Martin.

THOMAS
Martin. Buddy. There's plenty
around here to film. And if the
contestants get boring, tell one of
them to push somebody in the pool.
That'll stir up some drama.

Martin lets out a frustrated grunt and trudges off.

DAPHNE
He doesn't seem happy to be here.

THOMAS
Who? Marty? Nonsense. He's a pro.
In fact, I pulled him away from a
huge movie to do this show.

Behind him, Martin shoves a contestant into the pool.

THOMAS
Let me show you Lorna's old room.

INT. BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Thomas pushes open double doors.

THOMAS

This is where we first saw her.

REVEAL: The room is full of fruit baskets.

FRED

Doesn't look creepy to me.

VELMA

What's with all the fruit baskets?

SHAGGY

And will anybody mind if Scoob and I take one? Or two?

SCOOBY

Or seven?

JESSICA (O.S.)

Not at all.

In a flowing evening gown, JESSICA, a real Mary Ann from *Gilligan's Island* girl, stands in the doorway.

THOMAS

Everybody, this is Jessica. *The Single Girl*. Star of season one.

JESSICA

Nice to meet you. Sorry about the mess. I'm a bit of a fruit freak so the guys have been giving me this stuff all week long.

Shaggy stops mid-bite.

SHAGGY

Can you tell them you love pizza next?

DAPHNE

It must be great having all these guys competing for your attention.

JESSICA

It's a little weird, to be honest. I hate how awkward I am around them. And it's all being recorded, which is even worse.

THOMAS

Don't worry. Everybody loves the awkward ones.

JESSICA

Great. That's exactly what I want.

FRED

You're not excited to be famous?

JESSICA

I only agreed to do this show because I thought it would help me meet some nice guys. I didn't realize how much I'd be on camera.

THOMAS

She's being modest. The camera loves her.

She winces. Shaggy and Scooby burp, causing everyone to look at them. The fruit baskets have been obliterated.

SHAGGY

Like, was that all of them?

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Jessica sits at the head of a table, contestants seated along either side. Thomas follows Martin as he films.

JESSICA
Let dinner begin!

THOMAS
Cut!

JESSICA
Think I could do that again? It sounded weird.

THOMAS
No, no. It was terrific! [TO CONTESTANTS] Everybody eat and then we'll get some other takes.

Jessica sits down and turns to the CONTESTANT on her left.

JESSICA
So how --

He gets up and leaves. She turns to the MAN on her right.

JESSICA
Did you --

He leaves his seat. She looks down the table as all the men grab their food and disperse.

JESSICA
Where are you going? [BEAT] Oh, you men are all alike.

She leaves, frustrated. Thomas pats Martin's hump.

THOMAS
How'd it look?

MARTIN
Whatever...

Martin wanders off. The gang approaches.

FRED
So far so good.

DAPHNE
No sign of that horrible haunt
anywhere.

THOMAS
Hopefully it stays that way.

SHAGGY
What's the policy on dinner?

THOMAS
Everything out here is off limits,
but whatever you can find in the
kitchen is --

Shaggy and Scooby run off.

THOMAS
Wow. They're quick.

VELMA
You get used to it.

GENE, a slick-haired, indoor sunglasses wearing producer,
walks up.

GENE
Thomas, baby, looks great!

He shakes Fred, Daphne and Velma's hands in quick succession.

GENE
Gene Calmer. Producer.

He grabs Thomas by the shoulder.

GENE
I just have one question... where's
my ghost?

FRED
Your ghost?

GENE
In the collective sense. It's the
show's ghost. She's our key to
ratings gold. The world is tired of
the same old reality dating
shows... we need some excitement,
some -- you know -- ghost stuff.

VELMA
You aren't bothered by the problems
it's causing?

GENE

Problems? This ghost is the answer
to everything! [BEAT] Hang on, I'm
getting a call. Middleditch --

A horse whinnies offscreen.

THOMAS

Is nobody handling that horse?

GENE

-- get that ghost back or I'm
pulling the plug. [ON BLUETOOTH]
Madeleine, darling, how are you?

He walks off. Martin returns and whispers in Thomas' ear.

THOMAS

What do you mean yesterday's
footage is gone? [MARTIN WHISPERS]
All of it? [MARTIN WHISPERS] How --
I -- When --

DAPHNE

Is something wrong?

THOMAS

No. No. If Hollywood teaches us
anything, it teaches us to accept
our failures, as well as our
successes, with quiet dignity and
grace.

He lunges at Martin, grabbing him by the collar.

THOMAS

You jerk! I'll get you for this!
What did you do to me! What did you
do to me!

The gang works to pull Thomas off.

INT. KITCHEN - SAME

Shaggy and Scooby build massive sandwiches.

SHAGGY

There's nothing I love more than a
fully stocked kitchen!

They finish and take a step back to admire their work.

SHAGGY
We're true artists, Scoob.

SCOOBY
Masterpieces.

Scooby goes for his sandwich, but Shaggy stops him.

SHAGGY
Hang on. Something's missing.

Cheese? SCOOBY

No... SHAGGY

SCOOBY
Bologna?

SHAGGY
That's not it either.

They look at the sandwiches quizzically, then share in an identical "light bulb" moment.

Mustard! SCOOBY Mustard! SHAGGY

SHAGGY
I think I saw a jar in the fridge.

Scooby opens the fridge, Loveless Lorna sits inside. She hands him a jar of mustard.

SCOOBY
Thank you.

Scooby closes the fridge, goes wide-eyed, then opens it again. Lorna screams and he shuts it in her face.

SHAGGY
What's the problem?

SCOOBY
It's the -- she's in --

Shaggy takes the mustard.

SHAGGY
Oh, I see. This is Dijon mustard.
Don't worry, Scoob, there's
probably some yellow mustard in
here too.

Shaggy opens the door and Lorna screams at him.

SHAGGY
Zoinks! It's her!

Shaggy and Scooby run, but backtrack to grab their sandwiches and swallow them whole. She screams again, they run.

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Shaggy and Scooby slam the door. Everybody looks at them.

FRED
What is it?

SHAGGY
We got the ghost!

THOMAS
You did?

SCOOBY
In there.

Fred walks into the kitchen, then returns.

FRED
It's empty.

INT. KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

Thomas and the gang walk in. Pots, pans and food are everywhere.

THOMAS
What did you do to my kitchen?

SHAGGY
It wasn't us, it was that gruesome ghost!

THOMAS
And what? She disappeared without a trace?

VELMA
No. She walked.

Velma points at a trail of footprints.

DAPHNE
What kind of ghost leaves
footprints?

 THOMAS
One in sneakers?

 SHAGGY
[LAUGHS] Good one.

 THOMAS
Not the time, Shaggy.

INT. STUDY - MOMENTS LATER

They follow the footprints. The trail ends at a bookcase.

 THOMAS
Great! What do we do now? Read?

 FRED
Not quite...

Fred pulls a book off the shelf.

 FRED
Aha!

Nothing happens.

 THOMAS
I don't get it.

 FRED
Usually a book opens a secret
passage.

Fred pulls another book. Nothing.

 FRED
That's weird.

Fred keeps pulling books.

 VELMA
Maybe we should try the brand new
candle without any dust or cobwebs.

Thomas pulls it. The bookcase opens to reveal a secret
passage, smashing Fred between the bookcase and wall.

 THOMAS
Good thinking, Velma.

FRED
Put... the candle... back.

SHAGGY
It's okay, Fred. Better luck next time.

They walk into the secret passage, leaving Fred.

INT. SECRET PASSAGE - MOMENTS LATER

Fred runs up behind the rest of the group as they near a closed door. Light escapes underneath it.

DAPHNE
Maybe the ghost's still down here.

SHAGGY
I sure hope not!

FRED
There's only one way to find out.

He opens the door.

INT. SECRET ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The room is full of hard drives. Thomas picks one up and reads the label.

THOMAS
Elimination Ceremony. [READS
ANOTHER] Day two dinner [BEAT] My
footage! It's alive!

VELMA
Why does the ghost want reality
show footage?

SHAGGY
Maybe she's trying to binge watch.

THOMAS
Shaggy, not now. [BEAT] We need to
get this somewhere safe.

They grab armfuls of hard drives and walk out. Loveless Lorna watches from the shadows.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

INT. FOYER - NIGHT

Martin packs his camera equipment as Thomas and the gang arrive.

THOMAS
Marty? What are you doing?

MARTIN
Martin. Leaving.

THOMAS
What about the show?

MARTIN
You don't have one.

THOMAS
Yes I do! That room's full of
contestants waiting to find love.

The contestants walk in, carrying luggage.

THOMAS
No, wait! Everybody stop! We can't
end it like this!

CONTESTANT #3
Nobody said anything about ghosts
when I got here.

CONTESTANT #1
Yeah. I'm out.

CONTESTANT #2
Me too.

He winks at Velma.

THOMAS
But... [THINKING] The ghost is
gone!

MARTIN
She is?

THOMAS
Yes? These kids helped me track her
down and she won't be bothering us
anymore. Unpack, head to the pool
and let's get back to the show.

MARTIN
I don't know...

THOMAS
Would I lie to you, Marty?

Martin starts to open his mouth, but Thomas grabs his face.

THOMAS
Don't answer that. Just get out there and shoot this like the pro I know you are.

INT. DINING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Thomas and the gang set all the hard drives down.

SHAGGY
Like, when did we catch the ghost?

THOMAS
We didn't, Shaggy! Okay? I lied!
[TO FRED] How do you usually do this?

FRED
Typically we build a trap.

THOMAS
Great. Let's do that.

VELMA
There aren't enough clues yet.

THOMAS
What?

VELMA
I usually have a better idea of who's behind everything before we set a trap.

THOMAS
Then what do we do?

SHAGGY
I've got a suggestion.

DAPHNE
What is it?

SHAGGY
Run!

Loveless Lorna screams behind them. They run upstairs.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They stop to look at the hallway of doors.

VELMA
We already did this.

Lorna shows up and screams. They run past her, sliding downstairs on the bannister.

INT. WINDOWED HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Thomas stops everyone, including Lorna. Peeking out a window reveals Martin and the contestants.

THOMAS
Now!

EXT. POOL - CONTINUOUS

In the background, Thomas and the gang are chased by Lorna past a row of windows. Martin and the contestants don't notice.

INT. BILLIARD ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Shaggy, Scooby and Thomas split apart from the others. Lorna chooses to chase them.

THOMAS
Why us?

SHAGGY
We ask that every mystery.

SCOOBY
Every time.

They loop around.

INT. WINDOWED HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Thomas stops them all again. He looks out the window.

THOMAS
And... we're clear.

EXT. POOL - CONTINUOUS

Again, they run past the windows and nobody notices.

INT. LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Lorna enters and walks around, looking for the trio. She walks past the three of them simply standing and holding books in front of their faces. They exit once she passes by.

INT. THIRD HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

They slam the door on Lorna and hold it shut as she bangs against it. Thomas steps aside.

THOMAS

Guys, love is the only thing that can save this poor creature, and I am going to convince her that she is loved even at the cost of my own life. No matter what you hear in there, no matter how cruelly I beg you, no matter how terribly I may scream, do not open this door or you will undo everything I have worked for. Do you understand? Do not open this door!

SCOOBY

Yes, sir.

SHAGGY

[GULPS] Nice knowing you.

Thomas takes a deep breath and goes inside. Shaggy and Scooby immediately hold the door shut and put an ear against it.

THOMAS (O.S.)

It's okay, I'm here to -- [SCREAMS]
Let me out! Let me out of here!

Shaggy reaches for the handle, but Scooby grabs his hand and shakes his head.

SCOOBY

Be strong.

THOMAS (O.S.)

What's the matter with you people!
I was joking! Don't you know a joke
when you hear one? [SARCASTIC] Ha.
Ha. Ha.

SHAGGY

I don't know, Scoob. He sounds in trouble.

SCOOBY

No. He said don't do it.

THOMAS (O.S.)

Mommy!

INT. FOYER - LATER

Shaggy, Scooby and Thomas rejoin the others. Thomas is scratched, bruised and just generally in rough shape.

FRED

What happened to you?

THOMAS

I don't want to talk about it.

VELMA

What's that smell?

THOMAS

That's not me.

DAPHNE

I smell it too. Is it perfume?

Their noses lead them to Scooby.

DAPHNE

Scooby? Why do you have such a citrusy smell?

SCOOBY

I don't know.

SHAGGY

Maybe it rubbed off from the ghost?

VELMA

Jinkies! That's it!

THOMAS

Wait. That's it? That was the clue?
We can set a trap now?

FRED

I think so.

INT. STUDY - LATER

Shaggy, Scooby and Thomas unload a bunch of hard drives.

THOMAS
[POORLY ACTED] Thanks for helping
me carry all this footage in here,
guys. [WINKS] Hope no spirit is
hanging around...

SHAGGY
Tone it back.

THOMAS
Too strong?

Loveless Lorna jumps out and screams.

FRED
Now!

Fred and the girls pull a net up, catching the ghost.

THOMAS
Wow. I was expecting it to be
tougher than that.

Lorna breaks free.

SCOOBY
Uh oh.

Lorna chases Shaggy, Scooby and Thomas out of the room. Fred
approaches the net and examines the broken strands.

FRED
Okay, this wasn't my fault. This is
a defective net.

INT. STAIRWAY - CONTINUOUS

The trio are chased upstairs.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Thomas pulls down the attic stairs.

THOMAS
Up here, boys!

INT. ATTIC - CONTINUOUS

They enter. It's dark and spooky. Scooby bumps into a mirror and scares himself. He jumps into Shaggy's arms.

SCOOBY

Yikes!

Shaggy's knocked off balance and falls down the attic stairs, into Lorna. They tumble into a bedroom.

INT. BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

They hit a mattress and are sprung out the window.

EXT. AIR - CONTINUOUS

Lorna swipes at them mid-air. They scream.

EXT. POOL - CONTINUOUS

Contestants mingle and relax. Shaggy and Scooby splash into the water. The contestants glance up, scream and run. Lorna splashes through a pool floatie, ensnaring her.

CUT TO:

EXT. POOL - LATER

POLICE have arrived. Everyone surrounds Lorna.

THOMAS

So who is it? Who's been sabotaging my reality television series?

VELMA

None other than --

THOMAS

Marty! Get a good shot of this.

Martin adjusts his shot as Velma pulls Lorna's mask off and reveals Jessica.

EVERYBODY

Jessica!

VELMA

Precisely. Horrified by the idea of being portrayed as an awkward girl on national television, she used the legend of Loveless Lorna to steal the show's footage, making sure it never made it to air.

THOMAS

So the citrusy smell?

VELMA

A result of the multiple fruit baskets she had stored in her room around the costume.

THOMAS

Boy am I glad you crashed out front or whatever.

FRED

No problem, Mr. Middleditch.

A horse whinnies offscreen.

THOMAS

Where is that horse?

REVEAL: It's Martin's ringtone. He answers his cell phone.

MARTIN

Go for Marty.

JESSICA

I would've gotten away with it too, if it weren't --

THOMAS

Actually, you did get away with it.

EVERYBODY

What?

THOMAS

I haven't shot a full season yet and if my single girl doesn't want to be on the show, I've got nothing. [LIGHT BULB] Unless...

He smiles at Velma.

VELMA

What?

She freezes.

CUT TO:

INT. NETWORK OFFICE - DAY

REVEAL: Thomas has paused the episode for two EXECUTIVES, resembling Peter Boyle and Mel Brooks. A poster featuring Velma is propped beside him, advertising a series titled: *THE SINGLE GIRL MYSTERIES*.

THOMAS

So?

EXECUTIVE #1

I don't get it.

EXECUTIVE #2

Is it a dating show or a mystery series?

THOMAS

Yes.

EXECUTIVE #1

I don't like it.

EXECUTIVE #2

Me neither. What if we center it on the dog? [BEAT] Keep playing.

ON-SCREEN: Scooby smiles.

SCOOBY

Scooby-Dooby-Do!

END OF SHOW